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1. Airports Council International

Special consultative status granted in 1974

Introduction

The Airports Council International (ACI) — formerly, Airports Association Council International — is the association of the world's airports. It is a non-profit organization, the prime purpose of which is to foster cooperation among its member airports and with other partners in world aviation, including governmental, airline and aircraft manufacturing organizations. Through this cooperation, ACI makes a significant contribution to providing the travelling public with an air transport system that is safe, secure, efficient and environmentally compatible. Before the establishment of ACI in January 1991, the world's airports were represented on the international scene by the Airport Associations Coordinating Council (AACC), which had been created in 1970 by the then three international airport associations: the Airport Operators Council International (AOCI); the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA); and the Western European Airports Association (WEAA). The decision to create ACI, which incorporated the previous airport associations and succeeded AACC, was taken in 1989.

ACI's broad areas of activity include: airport safety; airport planning, design and operation; aviation security; airport economics; facilitation and services; aviation environmental protection; and airport information technology. ACI has observer status with ICAO. It also maintains active working relations with numerous intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations. ACI counts 550 members operating over 1,400 airports in 165 countries and territories. In 1999, ACI member airports handled over 3 billion passengers and 62 million tons of freight and mail.

During the period under review, ACI represented the coordinated views of its member airports on the international scene and directed its efforts at promoting the harmonious and orderly development of international civil aviation.

Cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies

ACI maintains close cooperation with ICAO. During the period under review, ACI actively participated in some 50 ICAO worldwide and regional meetings and contributed through its experts to the work of numerous ICAO panels, committees and study groups. ACI is represented on the following ICAO bodies: Committees on Aviation Environmental Protection, Unlawful Interference and Future Air Navigation Systems; panels on visual aids, aviation security, facilitation, statistics, airport economics, dangerous goods, and regulation of air transport services; and study groups on rescue economics of noise: restrictions, and frangible aids. ACI keeps its membership regularly informed of ICAO's activities. The cooperation between ACI and ICAO is described in greater detail in the ACI annual reports.

During the period 1994-1997, ACI was represented at the following meetings, inter alia, of specialized agencies:

1994 ICAO Air Navigation Services Economics Panel (Montreal)

ICAO/ACI Joint Facilitation Area Meeting (Tunis)

ICAO Worldwide Air Transport Conference (Montreal)

1995 WHO Global Programme on AIDS: Travel & Tourism Sector (Geneva)

ICAO Facilitation Division (Montreal)

ICAO Aviation Security Panel (Montreal)

ICAO Air Navigation Services (Montreal)

ICAO Assembly (Montreal)

ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (Geneva)

1996 ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (Montreal)

ICAO Air Navigation Services Economics Panel (Montreal)

ICAO Statistics Panel (Montreal)

1997 ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (Montreal)

ICAO Visual Aids Panel (Montreal)

ICAO Statistics Division (Montreal)

ICAO Aviation Security Panel (Montreal)

Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation on a Global Strategy for Safety Oversight (Montreal)

ICAO Facilitation Panel (Montreal)

In addition to ICAO, ACI maintains contacts on topics of mutual concern with other specialized agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, among them: the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Liaison is also maintained with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Tourism Organization. Since 1974, ACI and its predecessor AACC had permanent representatives to the United Nations offices in Geneva, New York and Vienna.

Activities of the Council of direct concern to airport operators are discussed at the biannual meetings of the ACI Governing Board. Pertinent information is transmitted to the membership, whenever necessary. ACI's representation at international forums is assured by Secretariat staff and experts from member airports. These experts are selected from a cross-section of airports in all parts of the world, thus allowing for a beneficial exchange of experience.

Cooperation with other international organizations

Apart from the United Nations agencies, ACI cooperates with a large number of other international organizations. First and foremost are the International Air

Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations (IFALPA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA), the International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA). the International Council of Aircraft Owner and Pilot Associations (IAOPA), the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA), and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). ACI is also a member of the International Industry Working Group (IIWG). This group, comprising representatives of ACI, IATA, ICCAIA and the ICAO secretariat, is entrusted with inter-industry studies on a variety of technical matters, with a view to tackling common problems, and so improve the design and development of both aircraft and airports.

Publications

ACI publishes annual reports, a policy handbook which is regularly updated, a magazine, a newsletter, traffic statistics, technical documents, position papers and press releases.

2. Colombian Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations

General consultative status granted in 1995

The Colombian Confederation of Non-Governmental Organizations (CCONG) encourages and facilitates dialogue and negotiation processes between non-governmental organizations, public and private sectors, international organizations and other expressions of the civil society, in order to generate cooperation models for the sustainable human development. Nowadays, it consists of eight regional federations and thirteen associations. Its economical resources come from different national and international entities, such as Comunidad de Madrid (Madrid's Community), Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (Spanish Agency for International Cooperation), USAID and the Presidency of the Republic of Colombia. It is affiliated with various international nets such as the Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Instituciones de Vivienda, Gestión y Medio Ambiente Urbano (Latin American and the Caribbean Network of Institutions of Housing, Administration and Urban Environment), le Red de ONG de Familia (the Network of Family NGOs), with its headquarters in Vienna, La Red Mundial de ONG (the Network of Global NGOs) with its headquarters in New Delhi. At national level it is part of the Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labour and Protection of Under-aged Workers, the Consulting Committee of Civil Society Organizations with the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Committee of the World Bank for Alliances against Poverty and for Development, among others.

In the past four years, the Confederation helped to construct a pluralist and sustainable civil society, with resources and projects that demonstrate its expansion, transparency and integrity. To accomplish its mission, it has been able to create a communication channel with the United Nations which has permitted it to generate projects at the national and international levels.

At the national level, between March of 1994 and March of 1995, the Confederation worked with UNDP, explaining the United Nations system and the new decentralization scenarios. CCONG, again with UNDP, organized meetings on reconciliation and national reconstruction, which resulted in the creation of the Permanent Assembly of the Civil Society for Peace in Bogota. More than 3,500 civil society organizations and 120 deputies of the international non-governmental organizations of Europe, the United States, Canada and Latin America attended.

At the international level, CCONG participated in the meetings of relevant non-governmental organizations in the activities of the International Year of the Family, first at the Latin American meeting (Cartagena de Indias) and afterwards at the meeting in Valetta, Malta. It also participated in a global march against child labour. CCONG participated in many UNICEF campaigns on Indians, culture, women's rights, maltreatment, HIV, basic health and human rights.

CCONG attended conferences and meetings in New York (on the child), Rio de Janeiro (environment), Vienna (human rights), Cairo (population), Copenhagen (social development), Beijing (women), Istanbul (housing) and Rome (FAO). At these events, CCONG prepared statements that were useful for the attending delegations. CCONG participated as a member of the official delegation in a meeting in Yokohama on the International Decade for Disaster Relief Reduction, and attended a meeting in Geneva on human rights.

In the areas of international cooperation and capacity-building, the Confederation demonstrated its experience in programmes and projects. At a meeting in Santa Cruz of Bolivia on sustainable development, CCONG organized a consulting workshop forum that influenced the final document.

United Nations concerns are discussed in the following issues of *Colombia Responde (Colombia Answers)*: No. 1 (May 1993); No. 2 (December 1993); No. 3 (April 1994); No. 5 (April 1995).

3. Goodwill Industries International

Special consultative status granted in 1995

Goodwill Industries International is an international organization consisting of 181 local Goodwill Industries in the United States and Canada and 38 associate members worldwide, dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment through a system of vocational training and employment.

Aims and purposes

Goodwill Industries International was established in 1902 to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and other special needs. The organization's purpose is to achieve the full participation in society of people with disabilities and other individuals with special needs by expanding their opportunities and occupational capabilities through a network of autonomous, non-profit, community-based organizations providing services throughout the world in response to local needs.

Increase in geographic membership: None.

Changes in funding: Total revenues increased by approximately 26.62 per cent.

Affiliation to an international non-governmental organization in consultative status: Goodwill Industries International has been affiliated with Rehabilitation International. Goodwill Industries International participates on an ongoing basis in the meetings and policy-making aspects of Rehabilitation International.

Participation in the activities of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

Goodwill's Director of International Programs participated in the development and publication by the United Nations of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/96, and served on the Rules Task Force.

Other relevant activities

Community-based employment and training programmes are central to Goodwill Industries International's mission. Most Goodwill member organizations provide services that fall into four general categories: vocational evaluation; vocational adjustment; job-seeking skills/job placement services and transitional employment. From 1995-1998, the number of people served through employment and training programmes rose to 320,848, an increase of approximately 148,000; people receiving job placement services rose to 74,263, a 200 per cent increase; people placed in competitive employment rose to 58,265, a 200 per cent increase.

Goodwill serves thousands of people outside the United States and Canada through its network of associate members overseas. The community-based organizations provide local job training and employment services. To encourage and support global expansion, individual United States and Canadian Goodwill organizations work with overseas members on cooperative projects.

To further service and support Goodwill's network of overseas activity a new programme, Goodwill Global, was formed in 1997. While Goodwill International's main focus is North America, Goodwill Global's sole mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment in other developed and underdeveloped countries. Its goal is to build alliances with like-minded corporations, foundations, Governments and non-government entities worldwide. Activities have included:

(a) Working to establish a partnership with the International Labour Organization, Rotary International, and local African organizations. Specifically, the International Labour Organization's Disability and Jobs for Africa programmes are targeting four or five sub-Saharan countries for a pilot programme. Goodwill best practices will be utilized to increase employment and reduce poverty of persons with disabilities, the very poor and disadvantaged;

(b) In partnership with the Shaw Trust, providing technical support to increase revenues the Shaw Trust is generating from its used goods retail enterprises. Focusing on a pilot programme for four of the Shaw Trust's 36 stores, a

Goodwill team developed a plan to increase donations, increase production efficiency and volume, and increase shop sales, and is working with Shaw Trust's management and store personnel to monitor improvements. The pilot programme has achieved its goals in the four stores, and the potential exists for creation of a Goodwill/Shaw Trust joint venture enterprise in the United Kingdom;

(c) The United Kingdom Department of Education and Employment and the Department of Social Service invited Goodwill to present a special three-day seminar and master class. A team of Goodwill experts shared the Goodwill approach to serving individuals with barriers to work and disabilities in the context of economic and welfare reform;

(d) In the Ukraine, along with the International Labour Organization, Rotary International, the Vocational Education and Rehabilitation Centre in Linz, Austria, and the University of Heidelberg, Goodwill will assist the Ukrainian Government and local rehabilitation organizations in the establishment of a model national centre for vocational rehabilitation. Goodwill will contribute to the development of management guidelines, curricula, and workforce development and training programmes as well as training of trainers in the Ukraine and at other locations including in the United States;

(e) Goodwill Global is serving as a technical resource to Rotary International to implement its goal of promoting employment opportunities for people with disabilities and other vocational barriers. Rotary embraced the goal of promoting employment opportunities for people with disabilities and other vocational barriers through the Creating Jobs for the World's Disabled Task Force. Rotary International's 29,000 Rotary clubs worldwide are collaborating with employers, local Goodwill organizations and other community-based organizations around the world to create employment for 500,000 people with disabilities.

4. International Chamber of Shipping

Special consultative status granted in 1971

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal international trade association for the shipping industry, concerned with technical, operational and legal issues, representing the global shipping industry at the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The membership of ICS includes national shipowner associations from 36 countries which together represent over half the world's merchant tonnage. ICS seeks to encourage high quality, safe and efficient commercial shipping, in an internationally regulated environment. It also promotes environmental safety. Over the period under review (1995-1998), ICS lost Colombia, but gained Austria and Barbados as members.

ICS's main areas of activity, with particular reference to IMO, can be grouped under five headings: maritime safety; environmental questions; maritime law; stowaways; and preparation for the Y2K bug.

Maritime safety

Much of the day-to-day work of ICS is connected with efforts both at regulatory level and within the industry to promote safety at sea. ICS was an active participant in the IMO conference in November 1995 to amend the Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), to improve the stability of roll-on/roll-off passenger ferries. With the growing international use of high-speed craft (HSC), ICS contributed to an IMO Code of Safety for High-Speed Craft, which took effect in January 1996. February 1996 also saw the advent of the new global marine distress and safety system, in the development of which ICS had been centrally engaged over many years.

Discussions continued in 1997 and 1998 to introduce further amendments to the SOLAS Convention to enforce newer, safer navigation technology on ships. Other safety matters in which ICS played a prominent part during the quadrennium included improvements in bulk carrier safety. ICS produced an industry checklist for good loading procedures and contributed to a resolution for greater structural survivability. Importantly, from 1996 ICS began to promote preparations for the IMO International Safety Management Code (ISM Code), which was developed to establish safer ship operation procedures. The Code came into force for many ships in July 1998 and ICS has published guidance on its implementation. ICS has continued to publish safety-related guides, including a new edition of the universally accepted *Tanker Safety Guide (Liquefied Gas)*, and, with other organizations, of the *International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals*.

Environmental questions

ICS started working with IMO in 1996 on preparatory work to revise the oil and chemical sections of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). In 1997, there were intensive discussions on ship's garbage and atmospheric pollution, and in 1997-1998 ICS helped draw up a garbage management plan for ships and measures to reduce sulphur and nitrogen oxide emissions. In 1998, ICS was concerned at the differing ways used to enforce low-sulphur fuels and advocated a worldwide practice, rather than special zones. In 1996-1997, discussions began in IMO, and still continuing today, over the disposal of ships' ballast water, which can transport unwanted marine organisms into foreign coastal waters. ICS argued for an international solution and a better, safer method than transferring ballast water out at sea. ICS published a model ballast management plan to help shipping companies organize the safe transfer of ballast water.

Maritime law

In May 1996, ICS participated at IMO in the adoption of the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention), which provides a two-tier scheme for sharing responsibility between shipowner and cargo-owner.

Stowaways

In 1996, ICS was involved with IMO in producing international guidelines for dealing with stowaways on ships. These discussions have continued to the present, with ICS assuming a central role in the debate.

Y2K problem

ICS issued a warning to the shipping industry in 1997 concerning the possible malfunction of shipboard and port computer systems associated with the so-called Y2K problem. As the critical date drew nearer, ICS was active in cooperation with international and national agencies to establish compliance checks and formulate contingency plans. ICS helped draw up with IMO a code of good practice for Y2K preparation, which was gratefully received as a contribution to the industry's readiness for the event.

5. International Co-operative Alliance

General consultative status granted in 1946

Founded in 1895, the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) is an international non-governmental organization which unites, represents and serves cooperatives worldwide. It has 254 national and international cooperative organizations from over 100 countries which represent over 760 million individuals. The aim of ICA is to promote and strengthen autonomous cooperatives throughout the world. Through actions taken at the international, regional and national levels, ICA also seeks to promote and protect cooperative values and principles; facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organizations; promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the cooperative movement; promote sustainable human development; and further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security.

ICA was one of the first non-governmental organizations to obtain consultative status, in 1946. Since then, it has worked both at the regional and international level with the United Nations and its bodies to fulfil its aims as stipulated by its own rules which explicitly mention collaboration with United Nations organizations as one of the means of achieving its objectives. ICA has participated in the major United Nations conferences on women, social development, food security and human settlements during the reporting period. It also collaborates on an annual basis with the United Nations in preparing celebrations for the United Nations International Day of Cooperatives, established by the General Assembly in resolution 49/155 of 23 December 1994. In addition, ICA has strengthened its relationship with the United Nations and its specialized bodies through its participation in the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), of which the United Nations, FAO and ILO are members.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and conferences

During the period 1994-1997, ICA participated in major United Nations world conferences and provided input to their preparatory processes: the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Summit for Social Development, United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

ICA was represented at the preparatory meetings for the Fourth World Conference on Women. Statements were distributed as conference room papers at the ESCAP Second Asia and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development (Jakarta, June 1994), the ECE High-Level Regional Preparatory Meeting (Vienna, October 1994), and the ECLAC Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Mar del Plata, September 1994). A global report, entitled "Contribution of cooperatives to the advancement of women: comments to the draft platform for action of the Fourth World Conference on Women", was submitted to the United Nations Secretariat in December 1994. Another report, jointly prepared by ICA and the United Nations Secretariat Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, was submitted as a conference room paper to the Commission on the Status of Women (thirty-ninth session) in March 1995, entitled "The contribution of cooperative business enterprise and the international cooperative movement to achievement of the strategic objectives of the draft platform of action". ICA sent a delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women, and an ICA Board member presented its statement on 7 June 1995, during the plenary session.

ICA also participated in the preparatory committee meetings of the World Summit on Social Development. A statement was distributed to the participants of the first session of the preparatory committee (New York, February 1994), and an oral statement was made at the second session (23 August 1994, New York). A series of information notes was jointly prepared by ICA and the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, addressing the role of coops and effective social partnership, expansion of productive employment, eradication of poverty, social integration, the advancement of women, the health, farmers and credit sectors. ICA was represented at the Summit (Copenhagen, 1995) and participated in the COPAC-organized official event, "Cooperatives, farmers' organizations and sustainable development", held on 7 March 1995.

ICA representatives participated in ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting for Habitat II (Geneva, September 1994) and the third session of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat II (New York, February 1996). An ICA representative made an oral statement during the plenary session of Habitat II (Istanbul, 7 June 1996).

ICA has also been represented at meetings of the regional economic commissions. It presented an oral statement to ECE at its forty-ninth session (Geneva) and was represented at the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions. It was regularly represented in the ECE Committee of Human Settlements. ICA was also represented at the forty-sixth session of the Committee on Agriculture (Geneva) and made an oral statement on item 5 of the agenda. It submitted a report to the ECE Committee on Agriculture entitled "Institutions and policies relating to agricultural markets and their impact on trade: the role of cooperatives, new approaches". ICA was represented at the ESCAP/NGO Forum for Social Development (Kuala Lumpur,

September 1997) and was represented by its regional offices at ESCAP and ECA statutory meetings.

ICA presented a statement and circulated a report on the contribution of fisheries cooperatives to food security at the Kyoto International Conference on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security (December 1995).

Collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The ICA permanent representative in Rome regularly represented ICA at FAO statutory meetings. In addition to participating in the Conference and Council, ICA was also regularly represented at the Committee on Agriculture. ICA also participated in the preparations for the World Food Summit itself. It was represented at the twenty-first session of the Committee on World Food Security (Rome, January 1996), where it presented an oral statement and prepared a special report in April 1996, "The role of the cooperative in contributing to food security and the World Food Summit and its follow-up" as input to conference documentation. It presented an oral statement to the World Food Summit (Rome, November 1996). ICA has also undertaken a number of joint technical activities with FAO in the period under review.

ICA works in close collaboration with the ILO. It was regularly represented at statutory meetings as well as the ILO Meeting of Experts on Cooperative Law (Geneva, 1995). It undertook a number of joint activities, including the preparation of the ILO/ICA "Gender issues in cooperative human resource development" (1996) and a series of technical cooperation activities. ICA collaborated closely with the ILO COOPNET and COOPREFORM programmes.

ICA appointed a permanent representative to the UNCTAD Standing Committee on Developing Services Sectors (Insurance), who made oral statements at its second and third sessions to the Committee (5 July 1994 and 15 November 1995, respectively).

ICA appointed a permanent representative to UNIDO who regularly represented ICA at statutory meetings. In December 1995, ICA was represented at the UNIDO Forum on Cleaner Industrial Production and presented a statement on ICA and its contribution to sustainable human development.

In 1995-1996 ICA collaborated with the WHO Global Programme on AIDS in the development of a research project to develop and test the benefits of an enabling approach in reducing HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases in a fishing trading community in Zambia.

Other relevant activities

On 15 May 1994 ICA received a testimonial award from the United Nations for its contribution to the International Year of the Family, at a celebration held at the United Nations Office in Geneva.

On a yearly basis since 1995 the ICA has included the message of the United Nations Secretary-General on the occasion of the United Nations International Day of Cooperatives in its press pack, distributed to over 2,000 organizations and

individuals. On the second International Day, it jointly organized with the United Nations Secretariat Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development a panel discussion on the theme, "Partnership between the United Nations and the international cooperative movement" at United Nations Headquarters (1 July 1996).

ICA participated in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the status and role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends (A/51/267, 6 August 1996), through its participation in COPAC.

ICA also provided information to the United Nations Secretariat Department of Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development for inclusion in its joint publication with the Institute for Environment and Development, entitled "Changing consumption and production patterns: unlocking trade opportunities" (May 1997).

6. International Union for the Scientific Study of Population

Special consultative status granted in 1950

Originally founded in 1928 and reconstituted in 1947, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) is the leading international professional association for individuals interested in population studies. The IUSSP network includes almost 2,000 members worldwide, among which one third are from developing countries.

In accordance with its constitutional objectives, IUSSP promotes scientific studies pertaining to the problems of population by encouraging research into demographic issues and problems worldwide, stimulating interest in population questions among Governments, international and national organizations, the scientific community and the general public, fostering exchanges between population specialists and those in related disciplines and disseminating scientific knowledge on population as widely as possible. Over the past half century the international community has had at its disposal a rapidly increasing body of knowledge on the interrelations between demographic behaviour and the development process. The great majority of this knowledge has been built up by members of IUSSP and much of it through programmes organized by IUSSP.

The returns from its research and monitoring activities, and the fact that they are carried out by a non-political and non-partisan organization, present donors with a very cost-effective mechanism for policy review and development. This is especially the case because the great majority of research identified by its scientific communities is carried out within universities, research institutions and other professional bodies, each of which has separate means of support for its activities. IUSSP is uniquely placed to foster the science which is so necessary in this field. It is constrained only by limitations on its funding, which is small in proportion to its influence around the world.

Activities, 1994-1997

(a) Seminar on Values and Fertility Change (Sion, Switzerland, 16-19 February 1994);

(b) Seminar on Sexual Sub-Cultures and Migration in the area of AIDS/STDs (Bangkok, 27 February-3 March 1994);

(c) Conference on Population and Environment in Industrialized Regions (Warsaw and Cracow, Poland, 27-30 June 1994);

(d) Workshop on Abortion, Infanticide and Neglect in the Past (Kyoto, Japan, 20-21 October 1994);

(e) Conference on Population and Environment in Arid Regions (Amman, Jordan, 24-27 October 1994);

(f) Seminar on Women, Poverty and Demographic Change (Oaxaca, Mexico, 25-28 October 1994);

(g) Conference on Demography and Poverty (Florence, Italy, 2-4 March 1995);

(h) Seminar on Intergenerational Economic Relations and Demographic Change (Honolulu, Hawaii, 12-14 September 1995);

(i) European Population Conference (Milan, Italy, September 1995);

(j) Seminar on Fertility and the Male Life Cycle in the Era of Fertility Decline (Zacatecas, Mexico, 13-16 November 1995);

(k) Conference on Asia Population History (Taipei, 4-8 January 1996);

(l) Seminar on Socio-cultural and Political Aspects of Abortion in a Changing World (Trivandrum, India, 25-28 March 1996);

(m) Seminar on Innovative Approaches to the Assessment of Reproductive Health (Manila, Philippines, 24-27 September 1996);

(n) Workshop for a Research Agenda for Family Planning in the Era of AIDS (Nairobi, Kenya, October 1996);

(o) Arab Regional Population Conference (Cairo, 8-12 December 1996);

(p) Seminar on Comparative Perspectives on Fertility Transition in South Asia (Islamabad, 17-20 December 1996);

(q) Seminar on Population and Economy: From Hunger to Modern Economic Growth (Toyonaka, Japan, 7-10 January 1997);

(r) Conference on the Socio-demographic Impact of AIDS in Africa (Durban, 3-6 February 1997);

(s) Seminar on Female Empowerment and Demographic Processes: Moving beyond Cairo (Lund, Sweden, 21-24 April 1997);

(t) Conference on International Migration at the Century's End: Trends and Issues (Barcelona, Spain, 7-10 May 1997);

(u) Workshop on the Methods for Family Planning Evaluation (San José, Costa Rica, 10-12 May 1997);

(v) Workshop on Age: Between Nature and Culture (Rostock, Germany, 29-31 May 1997);

(w) Seminar on the Cultural Perspectives on Reproductive Health (Rustenburg, South Africa, 16-19 June 1997);

(x) XXIIIrd General Conference (Beijing, China, 11-17 October 1997).

7. Junior Chamber International

Special consultative status granted in 1954

Junior Chamber International (JCI), also known as "the Jaycees", is a non-governmental organization with active ties to the United Nations system, including several United Nations agencies such as UNICEF and UNCTAD. It is a worldwide federation of young professionals and entrepreneurs between the ages of 18 and 40. Our mission is to contribute to the advancement of the global community by providing the opportunity for young people to develop the leadership skills, social responsibility, entrepreneurship, and fellowship necessary to create positive change.

We believe that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life; that the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations; that economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise; that government should be of laws rather than of men; that earth's great treasure lies in human personality, and that service is the best work of life.

JCI continued working with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Together, these organizations have worked for the prevention and control of cholera and diarrhoeal diseases around the world. In 1994 full-scale activities flourished in seven Junior Chamber priority countries with the guidance of regional staff and short-term technical consultants. Throughout the year, many national organizations and chapters implemented projects to provide clean drinking water and prevent these deadly diseases.

On 2 and 3 March, the then JCI President and Secretary-General attended a conference in Washington, D.C., to celebrate with UNICEF the twenty-fifth anniversary of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). The Director of UNICEF attended the ceremony. The JCI President and Secretary-General also attended a special UNICEF summit honouring UNICEF's Ambassador Harry Belafonte and the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu. The summit was entitled "United Nations Day of the African Child". The JCI President also launched the "JCI Refugees Relief Fund". Contributions were presented to the Director of UNICEF and to the President and CEO of CARE/USA.

In 1995, the new JCI President made "The future of children" his major theme for the year. Chapters were asked to carry out at least one project to benefit children. More than half a million children benefited in 1995 from more than 200 "Future of children" projects which ranged from a colouring contest in India to a leadership seminar for secondary school students in Fiji.

During 1995 a JCI/UNESCO joint project agreement was signed, and a task force was created to develop several programmes including the "Rounding the Cape" project. The purpose of this long-term initiative is to utilize the skills and contacts of Junior Chamber members to interview young people worldwide on their aspirations, values and motivations. This permanent dialogue allows JCI and

UNESCO to better understand young people and to become better advocates for youth.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and to honour the special occasion, JCI delegates from 74 countries and territories gathered in New York from 19 to 23 August. The delegates participated in the JCI Conference for the United Nations Fiftieth Anniversary. The theme for the conference was "JCI vision for the future of the United Nations". The conference provided great insight into the role of non-governmental organizations in United Nations programmes and initiatives around the world.

During 1996, JCI proudly continued to support UNICEF programmes, including the promotion of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). This simple, life-saving technique can save the life of a child suffering from dehydration in just 24 hours. JCI also supported the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child and reiterated its long-standing tradition of care and support for children worldwide.

The Global Affairs Leadership Summit was conducted in Paris with the cooperation of UNESCO and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in 1996. This important meeting attracted 336 JCI members from 70 national organizations plus an additional five contact countries.

During 1997 members convened in Geneva in September to celebrate JCI Day (19 September) at the United Nations Office. JCI's representative to the United Nations organized a two-day programme that included a tour of the United Nations facilities and a meeting with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

With the backing of UNESCO, Jeune chambre Économique française continued to promote the "Rounding the Cape" project. A representative of UNESCO travelled to Honolulu in November to speak to delegates at the JCI World Congress about this important programme which is intended to survey the needs, wants and aspirations of the world's children and adolescents and promote grassroots efforts to address those concerns.

In 1997, JCI continued to support the work of fellow non-governmental organizations, including the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Association of Students in Economics and Management (AIESEC), UNICEF and UNESCO.

8. Muslim World League

General consultative status granted in 1979

The Muslim World League (MWL-Rabita) is an international, Islamic and non-governmental organization, founded in 1962 and headquartered in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Saudi Arabia. Its aims and objectives are in general conformity to those of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council, in addition to the following:

(a) To disseminate Islamic Dawah and expound the teaching of Islam;

(b) To defend Islamic causes in a manner that safeguards the interests of Muslims, solves their problems and refutes allegation against Islam;

(c) To promote peace, cooperation and solidarity among mankind.

Accordingly, MWL-Rabita participates in and promotes United Nations activities in the fields related to international peace and harmony, human rights, education, health, social and scientific development, upholding of religious values, rendering relief to refugees and minorities, and prevention of racial discrimination.

To accomplish these goals in close cooperation with the United Nations and its main organs and specialized agencies, MWL-Rabita maintains permanent offices at the United Nations offices in New York, Geneva and Paris. Furthermore, MWI-Rabita's permanent representatives maintain cordial working relations on a regular basis with the United Nations Secretariat, the Council, UNICEF, UNDP and other United Nations bodies and agencies. Likewise MWL-Rabita representatives have always maintained good working relations with the delegations of member States and other non-governmental organization representatives.

MWL-Rabita representatives have regularly participated in United Nations conferences and symposia and attended the General Assembly sessions, and the Secretary-General has attended similar events convened elsewhere, including:

(a) World Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, Egypt, 13-15 September 1994);

(b) World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, Denmark, 6-12 March 1995);

(c) NGO Forum on Women (Beijing, 30 August-15 September 1995);

(d) Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, China, 4-15 September 1995);

(e) United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-14 June 1996);

(f) Millennium Summit for Religious Leaders and Peace (United Nations Headquarters, 28-31 August 2000).

The MWL representative actively participated in the following events held at United Nations Headquarters:

(a) Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women (13 March-5 April 1995);

(b) Fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations (21-22 October 1995);

(c) Annual meeting of Non-governmental Committee of UNICEF (4 June 1998);

(d) Seminar of NGOs on the Palestine Issue, on the theme "50 years for homeless Palestinian people";

(e) Fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights (14-16 September 1998);

(f) Fifth annual coordination meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (1 October 1998);

(g) Forty-third meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (March 1999), for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference, as well as in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on women (5-9 June 2000);

(h) Special session held on the fringes of the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (15 March 1999) at which the status of women was expounded from an Islamic point of view, followed by a reading at the concluding session of a communiqué by MWL-Rabita;

(i) Fifty-second Conference of NGOs (15-17 September 1999), on the theme "Challenges of globalization";

(j) Celebration of the International Solidarity Day with Palestinian People (29-30 November 1999);

(k) United Nations Workshop on the Internet (29 March 2000);

(l) Ninth Annual Conference of World Information Transfer Inc. (26-28 April 2000), on the theme "The advent of the new millennium";

(m) Millennium Forum (22-26 May 2000);

(n) Twenty-third extraordinary session of the General Assembly (5-9 June 2000).

The MWL-Rabita representative distributed a documentary memorandum regarding Quds (Jerusalem) to the Secretary-General and to 51 senior United Nations officials and permanent representatives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the United Nations. He also submitted a memorandum to the chairman of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly on women (5-9 June 2000).

9. Pan-African Women's Organization

Special consultative status granted in 1969

The Pan-African Women's Organization (PAWO) was established in July 1962 and has its headquarters in Luanda, Angola.

The membership of PAWO includes 53 African countries divided into five subregions with subregional offices: north – Algeria; west – Mali; east – United Republic of Tanzania; central – Rwanda; south – South Africa.

The year 1994 was devoted to preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women through organizations in countries members of PAWO. Workshops, meetings and exhibitions were organized at country level to explain the importance of the Beijing Conference for the worldwide mainstreaming of women into development. During 1994, a new upsurge in refugees (over 5 million in Africa) and displaced persons (over 15 million) resulted from the armed conflict in Rwanda. This group deserved attention: PAWO considered that education should be provided in the camps and other places where thousands of people were given shelter in often-precarious conditions. PAWO participated in the preparatory meeting organized by the United Nations in Dakar. Participants included 53 African countries, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, civil society and international organizations. It was an important consultative meeting which gave African women an opportunity to develop an African platform.

The year 1995 was devoted to the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing and attended by 40,000 women representing 2.8 billion of their sisters. What

unites all these women, above and beyond their differences of race, belief, economic level and culture, is their common lack of equal opportunity. Women have come to understand that they can count only on their own strength and on their creative capacity for mobilization, for their movement is universal.

In 1996, the governing council of PAWO met in Bamako to prepare for the Harare Conference. Twenty-two countries participated; the discussions focused on financial matters, since most member organizations had not paid their annual dues. Collection procedures were established, and information on the Beijing Conference and on the content of its Platform for Action were provided.

Today's Africa is caught up in the geopolitical changes taking place at the global level. It must be recognized that Africa, alone among the five continents, is disproportionately burdened by the unfavourable environment it faces, in the form of uprisings, armed conflicts, fratricidal wars and a crushing debt overhang. We are deeply concerned at the increasing number of internal conflicts in our countries for, in addition to their negative impact on peace and stability on the continent, these conflicts drain the scarce resources of the countries involved and lead to great sacrifices, including loss of human life, destruction of property and large numbers of displaced persons and refugees, most of them women and children.

The year 1997 was marked by the eighth PAWO congress in Harare, where a new general secretariat was established and a new General Secretary elected. PAWO participated in a session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, where it delivered a statement on the issue of peace on the African continent, the impact of armed conflicts on civilian populations and the resulting increase in the number of refugees. The secretariat visited refugee camps in Angola and Rwanda.

On 31 July of each year, which is celebrated as African Women's Day, national member organizations endeavour to evaluate follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Dakar Platform for Action; it will be recalled that, in Beijing, African Governments committed themselves to adopting appropriate legislation in that regard.

In 1998, PAWO participated in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) in Geneva, which provided an opportunity to express our will to continue cooperating with other non-governmental organizations throughout the world with a view to achieving genuine participation by civil society in all matters relating to the lives and well-being of peoples.

PAWO participated in two meetings organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Dakar and Addis Ababa, where we were appointed to membership in the Committee on Women and Development established by the African Centre for Women.

PAWO representatives also visited Guinea-Bissau, a country grappling with social problems that place a heavy burden on women.

In Senegal, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Minister of Women, Children and the Family of Senegal and PAWO launched a major information campaign on violence against women, and an Act prohibiting the infliction of genital mutilation on young girls was promulgated.

Bamako and Johannesburg, the sites of two regional secretariats, hosted meetings of national organizations on specific problems such as education, peace, health and poverty.

The observer status of PAWO in the Organization of African Unity (OAU) allows it to take part in all meetings, seminars, councils and summits of this African organization. Where necessary, PAWO takes the floor to discuss current problems, thereby providing input to African Governments concerning their actions in our countries.

In 1999, PAWO organized one-day workshops on the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) pandemic in Africa and, in particular, Southern Africa. The workshop was held in Namibia and gave PAWO women an opportunity to evaluate the extent of the pandemic, especially Africa's (including African women's) lack of access to new therapies. Over 150 women took part in the event; the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS) played a major role and provided financial support for the meeting. The resolutions adopted at the event were submitted to the thirty-fourth summit meeting of heads of State and Government of OAU, which adopted them.

The PAWO regional secretariat, made up of representatives of nine Southern African countries, met in Johannesburg to assess the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, particularly in the fields of health, education, decision-making and peace.

As part of its cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with which it maintains operational relations, PAWO participated in the Pan-African Women's Conference on a Culture of Peace, held from 17 to 20 May 1999 in Zanzibar.

Because African countries are faced with armed conflict, both directly and through their neighbours, PAWO sought to help prevent such conflicts by holding a Peace Forum during its statutory council meeting in Algiers in November 1999; forty-three countries attended. A declaration was issued at this meeting and was adopted by the Sixth African Regional Conference on Women, organized by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in preparation for the five-year review of the Beijing Conference. On that basis, the secretariat participated in the United Nations review conference, held in New York in 2000.

PAWO and its member organizations participated in the peace marches held in various African countries and in New York. PAWO hopes to establish an information centre, one purpose of which will be to establish a legal centre on violence against women that would provide women with advice, information and training on their rights.

The Queen Sophia Centre for the Study of Violence has just held a major Forum against Violence, at which the problem of excision was raised and discussed. This practice is considered to be a form of violence against African women, since it exists only in African countries.

If the 1980s were considered catastrophic for development, what of the 1990s and the dawn of the third millennium? According to studies carried out by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the situation continues to worsen;

most African countries are experiencing economic stagnation and, in some cases, even negative growth. A steadily increasing population, the debt burden and other factors limit women's opportunities to improve their status. It is in this situation that PAWO endeavours to focus on an equitable partnership between men and women, taking into account their specific needs.

10. Union internationale des avocats

Special consultative status granted in 1971

Aims and purposes

The Union internationale des avocats (UIA) is the oldest international organization constituted by bars, bar associations and law societies, known as "collective members", and lawyers, known as "individual members". UIA was formed in 1927, in Brussels, Belgium, and continues to exist under the original Belgian charter. UIA is both multicultural and multilingual. Approximately 300 bars, bar associations and law societies based in more than 100 countries throughout the world are collective members, who are representative of most of the world's legal systems and many of the world's languages. All of the major bars, bar associations and law societies of the world are active collective members. In addition, several thousand lawyers from throughout the world are individual members. UIA has six official languages (Arabic, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish) and three working languages (English, French and Spanish).

The primary aims and purposes of UIA include:

(a) To serve the interests of the people and the lawyers, and bars, bar associations and law societies which protect them;

(b) To promote the essential precepts of the work of the lawyer as the defender of the rights of citizens;

(c) To promote the development of jurisprudence in all fields of the law throughout the world;

(d) To take part in the activities of the United Nations and other international organizations;

(e) To establish at an international level permanent relations and exchanges between bar associations and law societies and their members;

(f) To defend the interests of members of the legal profession;

(g) To study, develop, and improve the organization and administration of the legal profession.

Since 1971, when special status was granted, UIA has contributed to the activities of the United Nations, including the work of the Council, and is a member of the Advisory Councils for the International Criminal Court and the two ad hoc International Criminal Tribunals.

The UIA has forty-three permanent commissions, subcommissions and working groups, dealing with all practice areas. The work of most of the

commissions and working groups of UIA is related in some way to activities of the United Nations.

Activities

UIA organizes and holds an annual Congress at locations around the world. In addition, throughout the year, UIA, solely or in cooperation with one or more entities, organizes a number of forums, programmes, seminars and other events. At each Congress, there is one main theme on one of three important issues: human rights, business law, and the legal profession. There are major addresses and discussions during plenary sessions. In recent years, United Nations-related topics, including those related to the Council and human rights and social topics, were discussed:

1994	Precedents and practical experiences with the United Nations Convention on the International Sale of Goods International human rights institutions in 1994
1995	Human rights and biotechnology
1996	Rights of the defence, Confidentiality and professional secrecy Justice and the media (freedom of speech and the right to defence) Children's rights of defence A decade of human rights at the United Nations
1997	The role of the lawyer in the defence of human rights
1998	The presumption of innocence Universal Declaration of Human Rights
1999	Legal aspects of electronic commerce, the role of international and domestic courts in the defence and protection of human rights
2000	Competing international jurisdictions in the field of international crimes Significance of the United Nations International Sales Convention

In recent years, UIA has been engaged in human rights and social activities throughout the world:

Missions

1994	Mission of observation to Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
1995	Mission to Jerusalem
1996	Mission to Beirut
1999	Mission to the International Criminal Tribunal of the Hague and Arusha Mission to Rwanda

Resolutions

1994	Resolution on the lawyer, peace and development
1995	Resolution regarding the Permanent International Criminal Court

1999	Resolution on children's rights Resolution on Algeria
2000	Resolution on the independence of the bars in Malaysia
2001	Resolution about the defence rights in Tunisia

In addition, commissions and working groups of UIA held meetings on topics relevant to the activities and work of the United Nations:

1994	The Rule of Law, the Lawyer and the Protection of the Citizen's Rights (Lisbon, Portugal) Transnational Negotiation and Arbitration: the United Nations Convention on the International Sale of Goods (New York)
1995	Faith, Law and Peace (Jerusalem, Israel) Minorities' Rights against Racism and Xenophobia (Valence, Spain) International Sale of Goods and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (Vienna, Austria)
1996	Remand in Custody in Europe (Milan, Italy)
1997	International Criminal and Civil Jurisdictions (Fés, Morocco)
1998	Protection of Employees: the Institutional Framework of the Social Dialogue (Istanbul, Turkey)
1999	The Globalization of the Profession in the Southern Countries (Agadir, Morocco) The World Trade Organization and the Business Lawyer (Beirut, Lebanon) The Rights of Defenders in International Jurisdictions (Paris, France) Defence in International Criminal Law (Geneva, Switzerland)
2000	The Globalization of the Lawyer's Profession: the Multimedia Challenge (Paris, France) Professional Confidentiality in the European Union: the Directive on Money Laundering (Porto, Portugal)

In addition to its congresses, forums, programmes, seminars, and other activities, UIA has organized three full-day briefings for the President of the UIA collective members, special representatives of the UIA collective members and other leaders of the profession from throughout the world. The briefings were held in New York at United Nations Headquarters (8 September 1997, 11 December 1998, and 7 July 2000). The third briefing was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Bar Association and a special meeting of the Australian Bar Association, held in New York. During the briefings, presentations were made by senior officials of the United Nations, including the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel, the Under-Secretary-General for Management, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Assistant Secretary-General for External Affairs, and senior members of the Office of Legal Affairs.

UIA and the United Nations

The relations between UIA and the United Nations are overseen and coordinated by the UIA Deputy Secretary-General. UIA has at least two active representatives to the United Nations in each of the principal venues — New York, Geneva and Vienna. One representative is a local resident whose task is to liaise regularly, and the other representative is a person holding high office in the Union.

UIA has sought and seeks to be of service to the United Nations and components of the United Nations system, including the Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of Legal Affairs and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, and to encourage and facilitate the relations of its collective members with the United Nations and components of the system.

UIA has responded to a number of requests emanating from the United Nations, and received and studied many reports emanating from the Organization, particularly from the Commission on Human Rights, with which the UIA Commissions on Human Rights and on the Defence of the Defence are closely involved, and from the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, with which many of the UIA Commissions are involved.

The UIA special representative to the Commission on Human Rights attended its annual sessions and addressed it. In addition, the Special Representative was in frequent contact with members of the United Nations staff in Geneva. During 1994-1995, the then-President of UIA addressed the annual session of the Commission on Human Rights. In association with the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International, among others, UIA was frequently involved in issues around the world involving human rights.

UIA has had close and warm ongoing relations with UNCITRAL, including close liaison with its Secretary and Senior Legal Officer. Some UIA commercial law-related Commissions have been and, on an ongoing basis, are involved with the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Since 1995, a former UIA President has represented UIA at each annual UNCITRAL session. For many years, the Secretary of the Commission, or his representative, has attended the annual UIA Congress and has addressed meetings of leaders of bars, bar associations and law societies from around the world organized by UIA. A number of joint projects between the UIA and UNCITRAL are under consideration.

In 1995, as part of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, the American Bar Association, UIA and the International Bar Association jointly sponsored a formal dinner at United Nations Headquarters. The UIA President attended and addressed the guests.

UIA was well represented at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, China, 1996), and subsequent meetings.